



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

STATE OF HAWAII  
STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
November 16, 2009

RECEIVED  
EUTF  
STATE OF HAWAII

2009 NOV 19 A 10 10

The Honorable George Kahooohanohano  
Chair, Board of Trustees  
Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund  
201 Merchant Street, Suite 1520  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Kahooohanohano:

I am writing to express my serious concerns regarding the current EUTF open enrollment process. As I understand from both reports to this office and a November 5, 2009 memo generated by the EUTF administrator, the procedures adopted by the Board will effectively preclude the State from fulfilling its obligations to its employees and deprive employees of their ability to make an informed decision as to the health care program they desire. This is unacceptable.

In part, these reports concern the lack of proper notice to employees of significant changes to the open enrollment process, the inadequacy of materials provided to employees to enable them to make informed decisions and the misleading statements on the necessary actions employees must take to ensure the continuity of their health care. Additionally, the workload of EUTF staff, limited resources and technological problems have all contributed to a situation in which thousands of state employees may find their health care seriously disrupted.

It is clear to me that the current enrollment process is flawed. Moreover, it will prevent state employees from receiving the benefits the State is legally obligated to provide. As such, I would recommend suspending the open enrollment process.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 586-9490.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pono Chong", written over a large, stylized "P" and "C".

PONO CHONG  
State Representative  
District 49

